

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA HELD
BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

On the 3rd day of May 2022, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Clarkston, Georgia met in regular session by teleconference, Zoom Audio/Video in said City. Mayor Beverly Burks called the meeting to order. The following member of the Council Members were present: Vice Mayor Awet Eyasu; Councilmembers Jamie Carroll; Debra Johnson; Laura Hopkins; Yterenickia Bell, and Susan Hood. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Shawanna Qawiy (City Manager); Dan Defnall (Finance Director); Tomika R. Mitchell (City Clerk); and Stephen Quinn (City Attorney).

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All members of Council were present.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

Approved the 03/01/2022 City Council Meeting Minutes; 04/05/2022 City Council Meeting Minutes; and 04/26/2022 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve the 03/01/2022 City Council Meeting Minutes, the 04/05/2022 City Council Meeting Minutes and the 04/26/2022 City Council Work Session Minutes. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

4. REPORTS

A. Planning/Economic and Development Report

- The Georgia Economic Placement Collaborative Retreat is May 5, 2022, for training and networking.
- Staff attended a Business Assistance Webinar related to managing finances during the pandemic. Staff also presented an overview of the assistance the City provides to the citizens.

B. City Manager's Report

- The American Rescue Plan reporting for state and local fiscal rescue funds have been submitted.
- Available ARPA Funds to the public for the following programs: Temporary Mortgage Assistance Program and Temporary Business Assistance Program, Temporary Utility Program, and the Quarantine Assistance Program.

- Service Delivery Strategy in Dekalb County is in the process of being updated.
- 2nd Annual Juneteenth Program.
- SPLOST Project Status Report

C. City Attorney's Report

- No report

D. Council Remarks

- The Council members briefly gave an overview of meetings and events they have attended, Covid-19 updates, and projects they are currently working on.

E. Mayor's Report

- The Mayor briefly gave an overview of meetings and events she attended and other news of the City.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian Medford and Amy Medford presented comments.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval to amend Resolution No.2022-001, Necessitating City Council Meetings by Zoom teleconference.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve to amend Resolution No.2022-001, Necessitating City Council Meetings by Zoom teleconference. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

Vice Mayor Eyasu briefly expressed he would like to have City Council meetings in-person and hybrid at City Hall to allow the community to attend.

Councilmember Bell rescinded her second on the motion made by Vice Mayor Eyasu.

The Council briefly discussed this item. Attorney, Stephen Quinn briefly explained the law on remote meetings, including absences of Councilmembers at City Council meetings.

Mayor Burks called for the vote. Vice Mayor Eyasu voted "yes" and Councilmembers Carroll, Johnson, Hopkins, Bell, and Hood voted "no". Mayor Burks declared the motion failed (1-5).

B. Approval of Change Order #42 SPLOST 04 B & C Rowland Street Road Diet Project.

Interim City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to approve Change Order \$42 for SPLOST 04 B & C Pedestrian Enhancements Trailhead and Rowland Street Road Diet Project. The SOL Construction Company submitted change order #42 to perform repairs, mill and resurface Vaughan Street and Clarkston Industrial Boulevard. The paving of Vaughan Street and Clarkston Industrial Blvd. will include driveways; Clarkston Industrial Blvd (Montreal Road to Dead End) and Vaughan Street (Montreal Road – Dead End). The

estimated cost of the change order submitted by SOL Construction Company is \$143,916. Staff recommends performing this work under the approved list of projects for the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) program.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve Change Order #42 SPLOST 04 B & C Rowland Street Road Diet Project. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmembers Carroll, Johnson, Hopkins, Bell, and Hood voted “yes”, none against. Vice Mayor Eyasu abstained. Mayor Burks declared the motion approved (5-0-1).

C. Approval of Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant Program paving projects.

Ms. Qawiy stated this item was to approve the LMIG projects from 2019 to 2021 the city requested that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) LMIG funding for three (3) years (2018-2021) is saved until which time it will be allocated to perform the projects submitted. There were formula amounts for 2018, 2019, and 2020.

The FY 2022 LMIG is applied to the following projects. Sidewalk project: Church Street (205 ft east of Mell Avenue Center line) and Lovejoy Street (Church St.-Rowland Street) The 30% match requires a minimum project cost of \$118,300. The estimated project cost is \$134,000. This project will be advertised to-bid late summer 2022. Source of match funding to be determined.

Staff recommended approving of the LMIG grant resurfacing projects with the 30% matching funds to be allocated from the SPLOST expenditures identified above.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the projects. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmembers Carroll, Johnson, Hopkins, Bell, and Hood voted “yes”, none against. Vice Mayor Eyasu abstained. Mayor Burks declared the motion approved (5-0-1).

D. Approval of the allocation of \$100,000 for a city resident Home Repair/Weatherization Program.

Councilmember Johnson stated the resolution reflected the changes that were discussed in the previous Work Session. The following are a list of requirements be met to qualify for such Weatherization Program: Proof of bonified residency within incorporated Clarkston boundaries; Must be a homeowner for at least 3 years; Home must be at least 10 years or older; Proof of financial Hardship within the last 2 years and/or 60 years and older, disabled, and/or caring for multiple school age children; and Work must be permitted by a licensed contractor and the City of Clarkston (Permitted work orders only).

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the resolution for weatherization and energy efficiency in the amount of \$100,000. Vice Mayor Eyasu duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- E. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding by the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation (VCOF) for ARPA funding for veteran assistance programs.

Victor Johnson with the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation gave a brief overview of the request of \$66,270 for assistance to the Veteran's Assistance Programs.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding by the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation (VCOF) for ARPA funding for veteran assistance programs in the amount of \$66,720. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed the motion. Vice Mayor Eyasu inquired about the budgeted item, 12 Hydroponic Towers for the amount of \$27,077 stating he would like details on the budgeted item and recommended to decrease the requested amount.

Vice Mayor Eyasu amended the motion to approve ARPA funding in the amended amount of \$39,193 to provide programming, food, and outreach assistance to veterans in the Clarkston Community. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Vice Mayor Eyasu and Councilmembers Carroll, Johnson, Hopkins, and Hood voted "yes", none against. Councilmember Bell abstained. Mayor Burks declared the motion approved (5-0-1).

Mayor Burks stated the Council needed to approve the first motion which was to approve a Memorandum of Understanding by the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation (VCOF) for ARPA funding for veteran assistance programs. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved.

- F. Approval of SPLOST 04 B & C Rowland Street Road Diet project-Rowland Street (Norman Road to Market Street).

Vice Mayor Eyasu gave a brief overview of this item. The Council briefly discussed this item.

Engineer, Larry Kaiser gave a brief explanation about traffic with this project.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve alternatives to the approved-one way entrance/exit of Rowland Street between Norman Road and Market Street. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

Mr. Kaiser will bring a rendering back to the City Council of the design of what was approved on this item.

- G. Approval of Change Order #38 for SPLOST 04 B&C Pedestrian Enhancement Trailhead and Rowland St. / Roger St. Chicane Removal and Speed Table Installation.

Ms. Qawiy stated this item was referred to the Transportation & Environment Committee and Public Safety & Legal Standing Advisory Committees for review with the residents. Community meetings were held with staff and members of Council in November 2021 and April 25, 2022, that allowed residents to express their concerns related to the installation of chicanes on Rogers Street.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve Change Order #38 for SPLOST 04 B&C Pedestrian Enhancement Trailhead and Rowland St. / Roger St. Chicane Removal and installation of three speed tables. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmembers Carroll, Johnson, Hopkins, and Bell voted “yes”, none against. Councilmember Hood abstained. Mayor Burks declared the motion approved (5-0-1).

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of an ARPA funding request from the Amani Women Center for \$42,000 to provide COVID-19 emergency assistance navigation services.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve the ARPA funding request from the Amani Women Center for \$42,000 to provide COVID-19 emergency assistance navigation services. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of a Conditional Use Permit Request from Robert Allen Chambers D/B/A All Nations Society of Atlanta for the property located at 4320 East Ponce De Leon Ave, Clarkston, GA 30021, zoned RC Residential Commercial for mission society/place of assembly. PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Qawiy presented a brief overview of this item stating the concerns from the Planning and Zoning Board and the current use of the location. Ms. Qawiy also stated there were two businesses in operation at this location, which the applicant was unaware.

Mr. Ellsworth, the applicant spoke in favor of this item and offered additional information regarding the request.

THE PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 10:06 P.M.

There were no public comments.

THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 10:07 P.M.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit request under the condition that the applicant and any other vehicles using either of the two buildings never exceed the number of spots they are currently in the shared parking spot. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to deny the Conditional Use Permit request from Robert Allen Chambers D/B/A All Nations Society of Atlanta for the property located at 4320 East Ponce De Leon Ave, Clarkston, GA 30021, zoned RC Residential Commercial for mission society/place of assembly. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmembers Johnson, Hopkins, and Hood voted “yes” and none against. Mayor Burks declared the motion approved (3-0-3). Vice Mayor Eyasu and Councilmembers Carroll and Bell abstained.

B. Approval of ARPA funding allocations.

Interim City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to approve ARPA funds. To date the City of Clarkston has allocated \$2,220,354.52 in ARPA funds to business assistance, rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utility assistance, quarantine income loss, COVID-19 At Home Tests kits (with supplemental cost coverages), food assistance, payroll (hazard pay-allocation for 2022), health initiatives, communication/marketing, PPE, computer equipment, technology (including a new Open Records Requests System) calisthenic and park equipment with upgrades and a payment on a police vehicle. Assessing the needs of city administration for staffing and program initiatives, the following are requests for ARPA funding a Receptionist, Finance Assistant, and a Grants Administrator.

Currently, the approved or pending MOUs are with Georgia State University-Community Assessment Translation Services; Fresh Harvest; Good Samaritan Lutheran Ministries; CDF Story Walk; and Burmese Rohingya Community.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to defer this item to the next Council meeting. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion.

Ms. Qawiy presented further details on the budgeted items.

The Council briefly discussed this item and Councilmember Johnson rescinded her second and Councilmember Hood rescinded her motion.

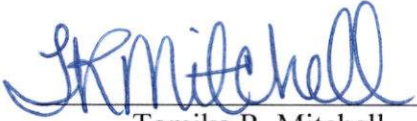
Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve ARPA funds for a Receptionist, Finance Assistant, and a Grants Administrator. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

9. ADJOURNMENT

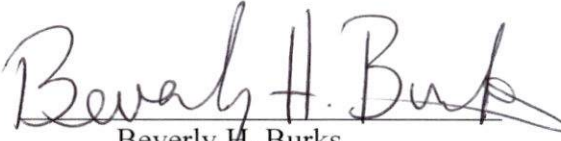
Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

ATTEST:



Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk



Beverly H. Burks
Mayor